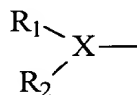


WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A protease conjugate comprising a protease moiety and one or more addition moieties wherein the protease moiety comprises a first epitope region, a second epitope region, and a third epitope region, wherein each addition moiety is covalently attached to an epitope protection position of the protease moiety, wherein:

- (a) the epitope protection positions for the first epitope region are selected from the group consisting of 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 12, 17, 36, 40, 41, 43, 44, 45, 67, 86, 87, 89, 206, 209, 210, 212, 213, 214, 215, and 216 corresponding to subtilisin BPN';
- (b) the epitope protection positions for the second epitope region are selected from the group consisting of 25, 26, 27, 46, 47, 48, 49, 50, 51, 52, 53, 54, 91, 99, 100, 101, 102, 127, 128, 129, 130, 131, 132, 133, 134, 136, 137, 138, 140, 141, 144, and 145 corresponding to subtilisin BPN'; and
- (c) the epitope protection positions for the third epitope region are selected from the group consisting of 9, 10, 22, 23, 24, 62, 63, 143, 146, 154, 155, 156, 157, 172, 173, 187, 189, 195, 197, 203, 204, 253, 254, 256, 265, 267, 269, 271, 272, and 275 corresponding to subtilisin BPN'.

2. A protease conjugate according to Claim 1 wherein each addition moiety, independently, has the structure:



wherein X is selected from the group consisting of nil and a linking moiety; R<sub>1</sub> is selected from the group consisting of nil, a first polypeptide, and a first polymer; and R<sub>2</sub> is selected from the group consisting of nil, a second polypeptide, and a second polymer; wherein at least one of X, R<sub>1</sub>, and R<sub>2</sub> is not nil.

3. A protease conjugate according to Claim 2 wherein the protease moiety has a modified amino acid sequence of a parent amino acid sequence, wherein the modified amino acid sequence comprises a substitution by a substituting amino acid at one or more of the epitope protection positions and wherein each addition moiety is covalently attached to one of the substituting amino acids.

4. A protease conjugate according to Claim 3 wherein the substituting amino acid is cysteine.

5. A protease conjugate according to Claim 4 wherein the parent amino acid sequence is selected from the group consisting of subtilisin BPN', subtilisin Carlsberg, subtilisin DY, subtilisin 309, proteinase K, thermitase, Protease A, Protease B, Protease C, and Protease D, and variants thereof.

6. A protease conjugate according to Claim 5 wherein:

(a) the epitope protection positions for the first epitope region are selected from the group consisting of 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 12, 17, 40, 41, 43, 67, 86, 87, 89, 206, 209, 214, and 215 corresponding to subtilisin BPN';

(b) the epitope protection positions for the second epitope region are selected from the group consisting of 27, 47, 48, 50, 52, 102, 127, 128, 130, 131, 132, 134, 138, and 141 corresponding to subtilisin BPN'; and

(c) the epitope protection positions for the third epitope region are selected from the group consisting of 22, 23, 24, 143, 146, 155, 173, 189, 197, 203, 204, 253, 254, 265, and 275 corresponding to subtilisin BPN'.

7. A protease conjugate according to Claim 6 wherein the epitope protection positions for the first epitope region are selected from the group consisting of 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 17, 40, 41, 43, 67, 86, 87, and 214 corresponding to subtilisin BPN'.

8. A protease conjugate according to Claim 6 wherein  $R_2$  is nil.

9. A protease conjugate according to Claim 8 wherein  $R_1$  is nil.

10. A protease conjugate according to Claim 8 wherein  $R_1$  is the first polypeptide.

11. A protease conjugate according to Claim 10 wherein the first polypeptide is selected from the group consisting of subtilisin BPN', subtilisin Carlsberg, subtilisin DY, subtilisin 309, proteinase K, thermitase, Protease A, Protease B, Protease C, and Protease D, and variants thereof.

12. A protease conjugate according to Claim 11 wherein the first polypeptide is covalently attached to the linking moiety or the protease moiety at a position of the first polypeptide selected from the group consisting of 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 9, 10, 12, 17, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 36, 40, 41, 43, 44, 45, 46, 47, 48, 49, 50, 51, 52, 53, 54, 62, 63, 67, 86, 87, 89, 91, 99, 100, 101, 102, 127, 128, 129, 130, 131, 132, 133, 134, 136, 137, 138, 140, 141, 143, 144, 145, 146, 154, 155, 156, 157, 172, 173, 187, 189, 195, 197, 203, 204, 206, 209, 210, 212, 213, 214, 215, 216, 253, 254, 256, 265, 267, 269, 271, 272, and 275 corresponding to subtilisin BPN'.

13. A protease conjugate according to Claim 12 wherein X is nil and wherein the protease moiety and the first polypeptide are covalently attached through a disulfide bridge.

14. A protease conjugate according to Claim 6 wherein R<sub>1</sub> is the first polymer and R<sub>2</sub> is selected from the group consisting of nil and the second polymer.

15. A protease conjugate according to Claim 14 wherein R<sub>2</sub> is nil and the first polymer is a polyethylene glycol.

16. A protease conjugate according to Claim 15 wherein at least one addition moiety is covalently attached to an epitope protection position for the first epitope region.

17. A protease conjugate according to Claim 15 wherein at least one addition moiety is covalently attached to an epitope protection position for the second epitope region.

18. A protease conjugate according to Claim 15 wherein at least one addition moiety is covalently attached to an epitope protection position for the third epitope region.

19. A protease conjugate according to Claim 1 additionally comprising one or more supplementary moieties.

20. A cleaning composition comprising a protease conjugate according to Claim 1 and a cleaning composition carrier.

21. A personal care composition comprising a protease conjugate according to Claim 1 and a personal care carrier.

